

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR SHEILA KUEHL AND MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

October 18, 2016

Since its establishment in 1968, the Boys & Girls Club of Venice (Club) has played an invaluable role in helping to enrich the lives of thousands of Westside youth. The Club's mission is to enable all young people, especially those most vulnerable, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. The Club was established on Venice Beach in 1968 as a VISTA project. When VISTA ended, community leaders recognized the need for an ongoing entity that would meet the needs of local youth, and opened the Club in a converted duplex at its current location. After the 1994 earthquake the community rallied to build the 30,000 square foot, state-of-the-art facility you see today. Since then, the Club has grown significantly, serving more than 3,500 children and youth annually from numerous Westside communities.

The Club provides Westside youth, many of whom come from underprivileged homes, with a safe haven from negative influences, and positive relationships with trained, caring adult role models. The Club offers high- quality, age appropriate - programs that are sensitive to the needs of at-risk youth, fostering strong values, self-esteem, healthy lifestyles, and cultivating a vision for the future. The Club's programs

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are concentrated in five core areas: 1) Character & Leadership ; 2) Education & Career; 3) Health & Life Skills; 4) The Arts; and 5) Sports, Fitness & Recreation.

For the past 13 years, the Club has provided its signature “Fast and Fun Sailing and Paddling Program” (Program) out of the Marina del Rey small craft harbor. The Program is a collaboration between the Club, the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department and the non-profit Fairwind Yacht Club. By combining resources, the Program has been able to impact positively the lives of thousands of at-risk youths on a relatively modest budget. In the Program, youth are trained in cooperation through working together as a sailing crew, leadership as “skipper” of a boat, developing a work ethic by helping with the set-up, cleanup and maintenance chores on the boats, and sharpening critical thinking skills. Instruction in water safety, marine life education and environmental stewardship are other important components of the Program. Currently, approximately 500 youth learn to sail each year through the Program.

The Club’s youth sailing program has been a notable success, having won US SAILING’s Best New Community Sailing Program award for 2004/05, the Distinguished Program Award for Delinquency Prevention from the California Youth Authority in 2006, and an Honor Award for excellence in programming from the Boys & Girls Clubs of America in 2007.

For the last 13 years, the Club has moored its sailing program’s boats and kayaks (eight Hobie Cats, one coach boat and a dozen kayaks) at the Pier 44 anchorage in Marina del Rey. The Club has also stored an equipment locker and trailer on the landside portion of the parcel. This arrangement was made possible through the generosity of Pacific Ocean Management, the lessee of Pier 44, who allowed the Club to anchor its boats and to store its equipment locker at the Pier 44 leasehold at no cost

to the Club.

The Pier 44 leasehold has recently been approved by the County and Coastal Commission for redevelopment, and demolition of all landside and waterside facilities at Pier 44 is poised to begin before the end of this year. As a result, the Club must find a new home for its sailing program's boats and for its equipment locker and trailer.

The County of Los Angeles (County) has recently constructed a public anchorage at Marina del Rey Parcel 47, which is located adjacent to the Pier 44 anchorage on Mindanao Way. In order to allow the Club to continue operating its valuable youth sailing program in Marina del Rey, it is necessary for the Board of Supervisors (Board) to assist in making it financially feasible for the Club to moor its boats and store its equipment at the new public anchorage at Parcel 47. Without the Board's assistance in this regard, it will not be possible for the Club to continue to operate its sailing program.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Director of the Department of Beaches and Harbors to waive the following rental fees, excluding the cost of liability insurance, at Parcel 47 and the mast-up storage yard for the Boys and Girls Club of Venice (Club) for the duration of the redevelopment activities at Parcel 44:

1. Five, twenty-four foot boat slips at a cost \$1,700.40 per month
2. Security deposits for each slip totaling \$680.16 per slip
3. Required deposits for gate and restroom keys at a cost of \$50 each
4. Mast-up storage space for the Club's trailer at a cost of \$110 per month